



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

117

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/715,207

11/18/2003

Mitchell Chapin Green

06975-510001 / AOL 204

2251

26171 7590 01/26/2007

FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

P.O. BOX 1022

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022

EXAMINER

SALOMON, PHENUEL S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2109

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
----------------------------------------	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

01/26/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>		<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/715,207		GREEN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>		<b>Art Unit</b>	
		Phenuel S. Salomon	2112	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                        |                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/2004</u> .                                                  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

Art Unit: 2112

1. This action is in response to the original filing of November 18, 2003. Claims 1-34 are pending and have been considered below.

### ***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the examiner notes the use of acronyms: ISP, PSTN, ISDN, xDSL in the specification without including a description in plain text, as required. Appropriate correction is required.
3. The use of the trademark [LINUX<sup>TM</sup>] has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology. Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner, which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

### ***Drawings***

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 4906, 4908, 4910, and 5360. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be

Art Unit: 2112

notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

5. The drawings are objected to because of minor informalities: Fig. 8, box 802, line 2 "user's address uook" and box 804, line 4 "the mappings to the buddy ist". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-4, 11-13, 14 and 16, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Doss (US 2003/0046296 A1).

Claims 1 and 11. Doss discloses graphical user interface between a client system used by a user to access a computer service and a host system of the computer service, the graphical user interface comprising:

a list of other users of the computer service selected by the user as significant to the user (page 1, par. [0007], lines 4-7), and

a list of computer resources (*electronic calendar*) stored on the host system by the user (page 2, par. [0011], [0015] and [0017]).

Claim 2. Doss discloses a graphical user interface of claim 1, wherein the computer service includes an instant messaging computer service and the list of other users includes presence information for each of the other users (page1, par.[0008], lines 1-7).

Claims 3,14 and 16. Doss discloses graphical user interface of claim 1, further comprising a supplemental interface related to a computer resource in the list of computer resources, wherein the supplemental interface enables the user to grant access to the computer resource to another user of the computer service (page 2, par. [0020] and [0021], lines 1-8).

Claims 4, 12 and 13. Doss discloses graphical user interface of claim 1, further comprising a list of other users to whom the user has granted access to one of the computer resources stored on the host system by the user (page 2, par. [0021]).

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5-10, 15, 17-21, 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doss (US 2003/0046296 A1) in view of Dunlap (US 6,560,637 B1).

Claims 5-15. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose a list of other users to whom the user has granted the ability to access and modify one of the computer resources stored on the host system by the user.

Dunlap discloses a "user interface module enables the user to load and select presentation files...." (col. 4, lines 1-32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the ability to access and modify one of the computer resources into Doss. One would have been motivated to do it in order to facilitate files modification as required.

Claims 6-17. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose a computer resource represented by an icon within the graphical user interface. Dunlap discloses a "set of options for further action by the user..." "enter a meeting option..." (Col.4, lines 54-60) and fig. 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to represent computer resources by an icon in Doss. One would have been motivated to do it in order to assure fast access to these resources.

Claims 7-18. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 6 above, but does not explicitly disclose the icon, when selected by the user, activates an application to open the computer resource for the user. Dunlap discloses "Linking to "send presentation" option allows the user to send a presentation file (e.g., Power Point file)....." (col. 4, lines 64-67 and col. 5, lines 1-6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a link between the icon and an application in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to let the user conveniently open an application with no interruption.

Claims 8-19. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose, at least one computer resource in the list of computer resources is a data file containing text that can be accessed and modified by the user. Dunlap discloses "Linking to "send presentation" option allows the user to send a presentation file (e.g., Power Point, word, excel files (col.4, lines 7-11)....." (col. 4, lines 64-67 and col. 5, lines 1-6) (Examiner note: It's inherent that a presenter can modify the files since he/she has full access to the presentation files). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include file modification in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate files updating as required.

Claims 9-20. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 8 above, but does not explicitly disclose at least one computer resource is a data file containing text that can be accessed and modified by another user to whom permission to access and modify the data file has been granted by the user. Dunlap discloses a "user interface module enables the user to load and select presentation files...." (col. 4, lines 1-32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the ability to access and modify one of the computer resources into Doss. One would have been motivated to do it in order to facilitate files modification as required.

Art Unit: 2112

Claims 10-21. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose a list of links to data content, wherein the links are selected by the user. Dunlap discloses a "set of options for further action by the user..." "enter a meeting option"..." (col.4, lines 54-60) and fig. 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a list of links with data contents in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate access to other data resources without interruption.

Claim 24. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 22 below, but does not explicitly disclose a list of other users with whom a link has been shared. Dunlap discloses a " set of options that have embedded hypertext links...." (col. 4, lines 54-64) (Examiner note: Sharing is inherent since the same interface will be displayed to all of the users). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include link sharing in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to let everyone have access to the same valuable resources.

Claims 25-32. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 22 below, but does not explicitly disclose a database storing the list of links is stored on the host system. Dunlap discloses a" presentation file [e.g., Power Point, word, excel files col.4, lines 7-11] stored at a terminal or...." (col. 4, lines 64-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate file management system.

Claims 26-33. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 22 below, but does not explicitly disclose a link is represented by an icon within the graphical user interface. Dunlap discloses a "join a meeting" option that causes a browser..." (col. 5, lines 9-15). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time



Art Unit: 2112

the invention was made to include an icon of a link in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to quickly and conveniently access resources associated with that link.

Claims 27-34. Doss discloses a graphical user interface as in claim 26 above, but does not explicitly disclose the icon, when selected by the user, activates an application to open the link for the user. Dunlap discloses Linking to "send presentation" option allows the user to send a presentation file (e.g., Power Point)....." (col. 4, lines 64-67 and col. 5, lines 1-6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate a user access to other resources without the inconvenience of constantly launching a different application.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 22-23 and 28-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doss (US 2003/0046296 A1) in view of Megiddo (US 6,725,269 B1).

Claims 22-28. Doss discloses a graphical user interface between a client system used by a user to access a computer service and a host system of the computer service, the graphical user interface comprising:

a list of other users of the computer service selected by the user as significant to the user (page 1, par. [0007], lines 4-7); but does not explicitly disclose "a list of links to

data content that have been selected by the user.” Megiddo discloses a “user list menu which include all of the current user names and the website address associated with each user....” (col. 8, lines 64-67 and col. 9, lines 1-9). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to monitor one’s buddy online activities.

Claim 23. Doss and Megiddo disclose a graphical user interface as in claim 22 above, <sup>AND</sup> ~~but~~ Doss discloses a computer service that includes an instant messaging computer service and the list of other users includes presence information for each of the other users (page1, par. [0008], lines 1-7).

Claim 29. Doss discloses a method as in claim 28 above, but does not explicitly disclose receiving an instruction from the user to inform another user of the computer service about a link within the list of links, wherein the instruction is sent by the user from within the graphical user interface; and informing the other user of the link. Megiddo discloses a “list of links associated with a user” (see fig. 6a and 6b). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to quickly and conveniently access resources associated with that link.

Claim 30. Doss discloses a method as in claim 28 above, but does not explicitly disclose displaying a list of other users who have been informed about a link within the list of links. Megiddo discloses a “list of links associated with a user” (see fig. 6a and 6b). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to monitor whether anybody who should have been informed is left out.

Claim 31. Doss discloses a method as in claim 28 above, but does not explicitly

disclose displaying a supplemental interface (which is inherent) related to one of the links in the list of links; and in the supplemental interface, displaying a list of other users who have been informed about a link within the list of links. Megiddo discloses a "list of links associated with a user" (see fig. 6a and 6b). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to monitor whether anybody who should have been informed is left out.

Claim 32. Doss discloses a method as in claim 28 above, but does not explicitly disclose displaying a supplemental interface (which is inherent) related to one of the other users in the list of other users; and in the supplemental interface, displaying a list of links about which the one of the other users has been informed. Megiddo discloses a "list of links associated with a user" (see fig. 6b). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature in Doss. One would have been motivated to do so in order to monitor whether anybody who should have been informed is left out.

### ***Conclusion***

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Keinonen et al. (US 2002/0082054 A1) discloses mobile emotional notification application.
- b. Singh (US 6,157,379) discloses apparatus and method of formatting a list for display on a touchscreen.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phenuel S. Salomon whose telephone number is (571)

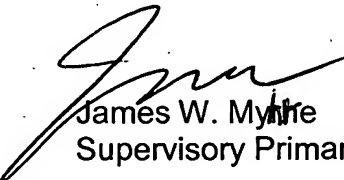
Art Unit: 2112

270-1699. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.(Alternate Friday Off) EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Myhre can be reached on (571) 270-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3800.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PSS  
1/19/2007

  
James W. Myhre  
Supervisory Primary Examiner